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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. BONILLA].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

June 21, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable HENRY BONILLA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We pray, O gracious God, that we will focus our energies and abilities in ways that calm any troubled waters, that help straighten any crooked road, that we will help people know faith and hope and love. As we quickly move along life's way, may we treasure the virtues of being reconcilers of the truth and custodians of the marvelous gifts of Your Word. In the vocations of each day enable us to hold dear to that which is eternal and strive always to be the people You would have us be. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado [Mr. HEFLEY]

will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HEFLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This morning the Chair will recognize five 1-minute speeches on either side of the aisle as agreed to by the leadership.

PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, at least I assume it will be today, the House will begin debate on the Legislative Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1996. With passage of this bill, Congress can show the American people that we are serious about cutting spending and downsizing the Federal bureaucracy.

Over \$155 million in spending cuts in this bill; one-third cut in overall committee staff; elimination of some of the offices, the folding room, the flag office, the ice distribution to Members' offices.

Mr. Speaker, around this town some may believe that \$155 million is not much money, but this Member of Congress, as well as the American taxpayers, think it is a lot of money. I have always felt that if we are serious about reaching a balanced budget, we should start first with our own selves here, our own legislative budget. Maybe today we will take that first important step.

LOBBY REFORM LEGISLATION IS NEEDED

(Mr. BRYANT of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRYANT of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot of talk this year about reform of this House from the new Republican leadership. But the one thing that they have steadfastly refused to do in attempting reform is the outrageous practice that continues, and has continued for many years, of Members of Congress being able to accept gifts from the very lobbyists who are paid to come and influence our decisions.

It is time, Mr. Speaker, to end the carefully orchestrated effort by the Republican Speaker and the Republican leadership to prevent this House from considering legislation to prohibit the acceptance of gifts by Members of Congress from lobbyists.

Last year we passed legislation through this House that did that. We passed it through the Senate and it did the same thing. But when the conference report went back to the Senate in the waning days of the session, the Republican Senators filibustered it and killed it.

The fact of the matter is the public wants it. It is in the interest of this institution. It is good for America. Mr. Speaker, stop blocking the efforts to bring lobby reform legislation before the House of Representatives.

PRESERVE THE OCS BAN

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday's vote by the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee to lift the 14-year-old

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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